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News Release

For Immediate Release

MoDOT, City Prepare for Holiday Traffic

Holiday shoppers navigating busy Springfield streets around retail centers will get help from Traffic Engineers with the City of Springfield and Missouri Department of Transportation.

Starting the evening of Thanksgiving, staff at the Transportation Management Center (TMC) of the Ozarks will:

- Monitor traffic cameras for congestion and traffic incidents for extended hours
- Implement new holiday signal timing to improve traffic flow
- Post real-time traffic alerts on dynamic message signs as needed

Despite these efforts, however, drivers can expect slow-going at times at the busiest intersections and at crowded store entrances.

Drivers are urged to be alert and patient in stop-and-go traffic on streets and be extra careful in parking lots while looking for a parking space and backing out when leaving. Other traffic tips include:

- Before leaving your home, tune into local traffic reports on TV, then tune into the radio for additional traffic reports while you travel.
- Pre-plan your shopping route to help reduce the need to double back on the same roadway and pre-select lanes of travel for turns to better access to each business.
- Do not follow other motorists too closely.
- Be patient and courteous to other motorists.
- Plan trips to better utilize less congested roadways.
- If traffic does back up, do not block intersections.

Motorists are encouraged to visit www.ozarkstraffic.info to check real-time traffic incidents before beginning their travel in the area. Traffic tie-ups that are posted on this site will aid local media in releasing traffic information to motorists to help them avoid major congestion.

Live traffic video is also available on CityView, the City's government access channel. Tune in to cable channel 15.2 (those with a QAM-tuner-equipped TV) or channel 81 if citizens use a Mediacom converter box.

For more information, contact: Jason Haynes, City of Springfield, at (417) 864-1167; or Adam Humphrey, MoDOT, at (417) 829-8044.